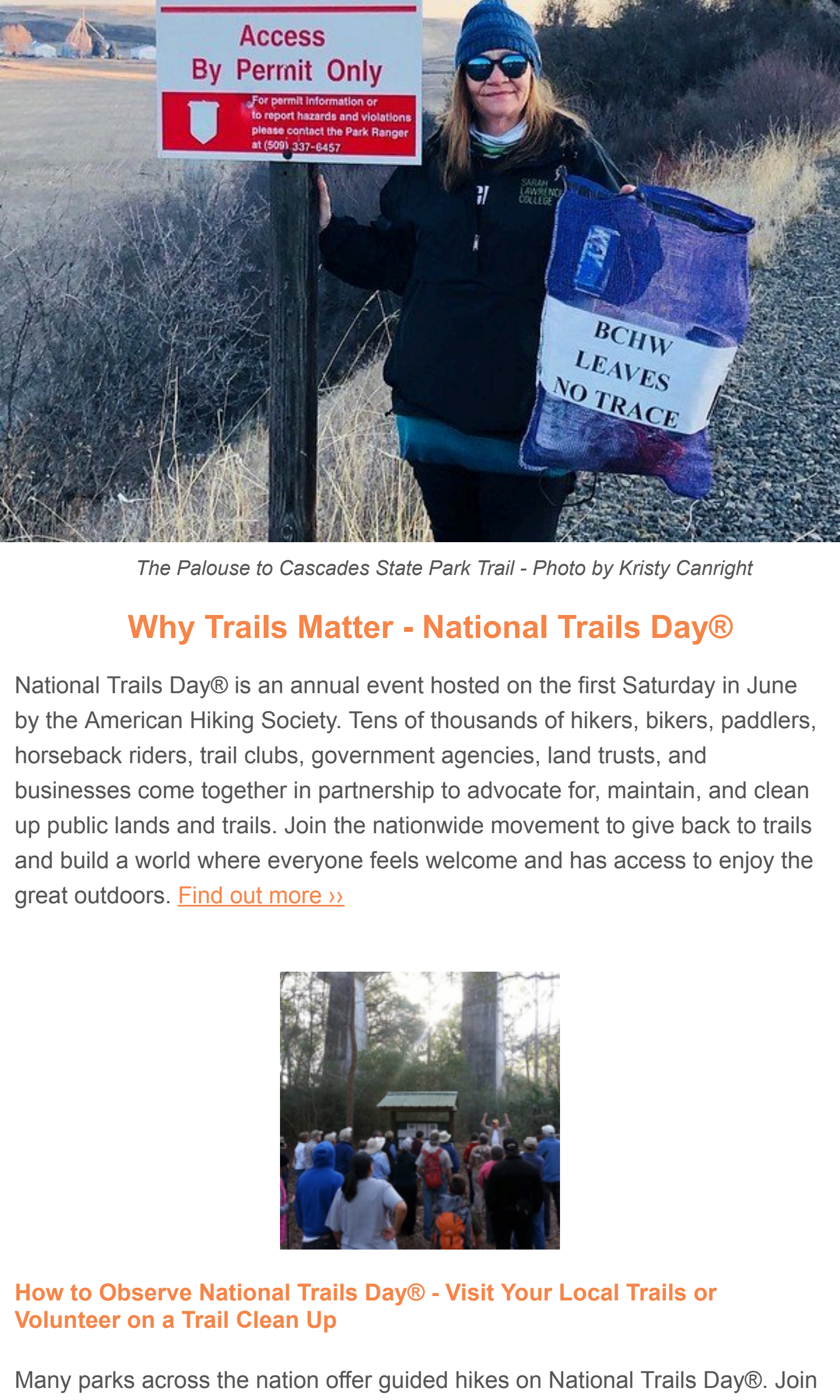




# TRAIL TRACKS

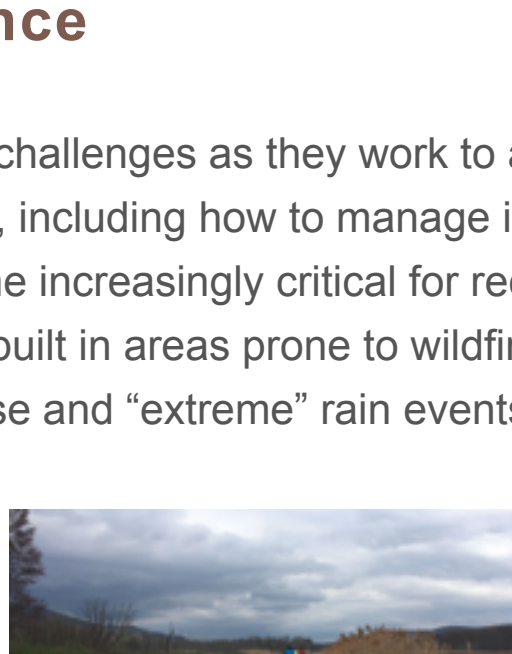
May 2023



The Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail - Photo by Kristy Canright

## Why Trails Matter - National Trails Day®

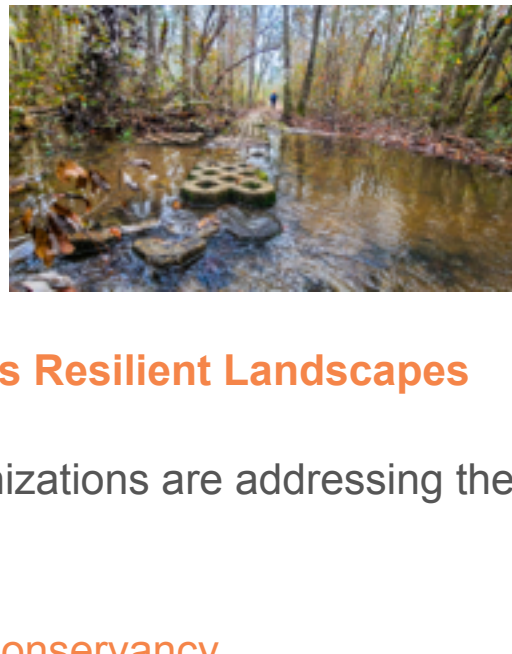
National Trails Day® is an annual event hosted on the first Saturday in June by the American Hiking Society. Tens of thousands of hikers, bikers, paddlers, horseback riders, trail clubs, government agencies, land trusts, and businesses come together in partnership to advocate for, maintain, and clean up public lands and trails. Join the nationwide movement to give back to trails and build a world where everyone feels welcome and has access to enjoy the great outdoors. [Find out more >>](#)



## How to Observe National Trails Day® - Visit Your Local Trails or Volunteer on a Trail Clean Up

Many parks across the nation offer guided hikes on National Trails Day®. Join some of the parks below, or find your own event through the American Hiking Society's [Find an Event](#) search.

- [The American Discovery Trail Challenge](#)
- [National Trails Day® Hikes at Kentucky Parks](#)
- [Gallatin Valley Land Trust Summer Trails Challenge](#)
- [National Trails Day® Fun Across North Carolina and South Carolina](#)
- [Free Guided Hikes at Tennessee State Parks](#)
- [Hike the Trails Challenge Texas Parks and Wildlife](#)

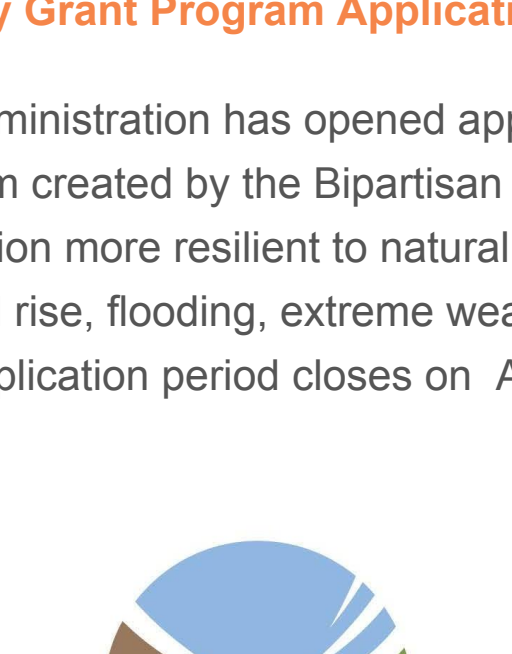


## The History of National Trails Day®

The history of National Trails Day® stretches back to October 2, 1968, when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the [National Trails System Act](#), establishing national recreation, scenic, and historic trails. [Find out more >>](#)

## Climate Resilience

Communities face many challenges as they work to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, including how to manage infrastructure of all scales. Trails, which have become increasingly critical for recreation, health, and transportation, are often built in areas prone to wildfire, extreme heat, or flooding from sea level rise and "extreme" rain events.



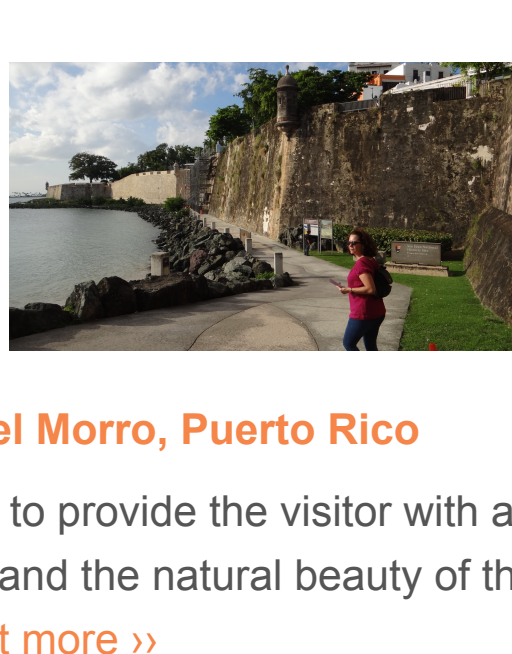
## Trails and Resilience: A Review of the Role of Trails in Climate Resilience and Emergency Response

Trails are often overlooked as elements of essential infrastructure for a resilient transportation system. In emergencies where other transportation facilities are shut down or inaccessible, people may use trails to get where they need to go. [Find out more >>](#)



## Green Infrastructure

Learn how the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program addresses urban heat sinks and flooding through green infrastructure strategies. [View video here >>](#)



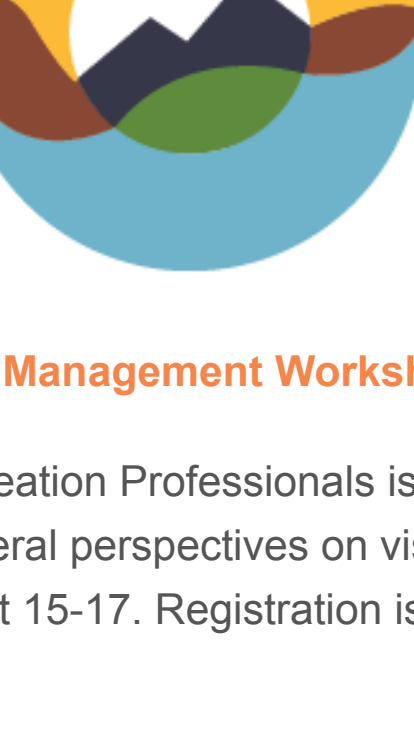
## Greenways and Trails as Resilient Landscapes

Find out how these organizations are addressing the impact of climate change:

- [Appalachian Trail Conservancy](#)
- [National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program](#)
- [Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota](#)
- [Partnership for the National Trails System](#)
- [Rails-to-Trails Conservancy](#)
- [TRAILS Project](#)
- [Trust for Public Land](#)
- [World Trails Network](#)
- Search online for more using [trails and climate resilience](#)

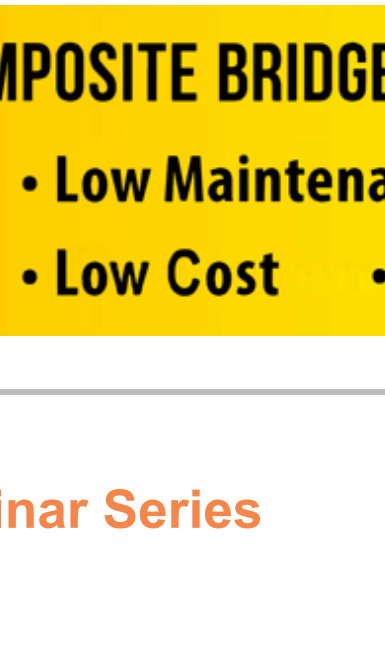


## Funding and Legislation



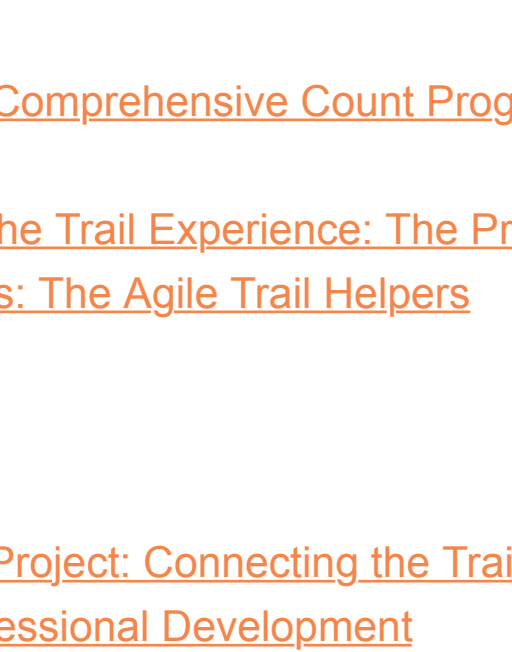
## PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program Applications Period Open

The Federal Highway Administration has opened applications for a new competitive grant program created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to help make surface transportation more resilient to natural hazards, including climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters. The application period closes on August 18. [Find out more >>](#)



## Grant Funding for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Projects in Nevada

The Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation is now accepting applications for outdoor recreation infrastructure projects in Nevada. Approximately \$600,000 in grant funding is available through the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure grant program. Applications are due by May 31. [Find out more >>](#)



## Ford's Bronco Wild Fund 2022 Impact Report

Bronco Wild Fund leverages nonprofit organizations with established preservation efforts to encourage responsible stewardship. In 2022, Ford focused on localizing impact with American Trails and the launch of a grant pilot program. [Find out more >>](#)

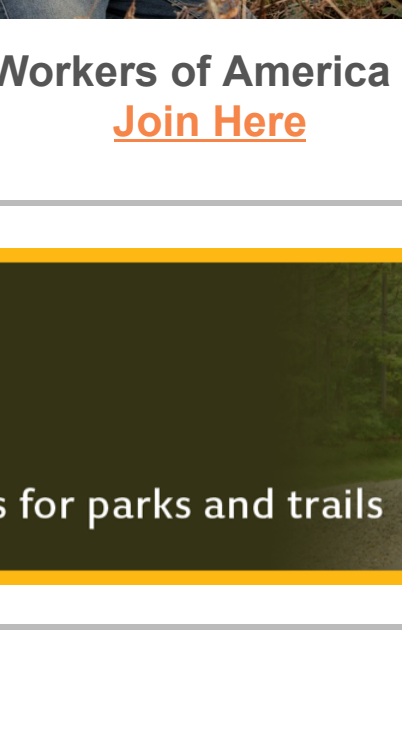
## Featured Trails and Trail News

National Recreation Trails (NRTs) are not only located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia but also in the U.S. territories. Puerto Rico has three NRTs: [Trade Winds](#), [El Toro](#), and [Paseo del Morro](#).



## Featured NRT: Paseo del Morro, Puerto Rico

The paseo was designed to provide the visitor with an impressive view of these 300-year-old walls and the natural beauty of the San Juan Bay and estuary systems. [Find out more >>](#)



## New Online Version of the NRT Application Available

Learn about the NRT designation and if you can apply online. If your trail is on federal land managed or administered by (or associated with) the US Department of Agriculture (National Forests, National Grasslands, and USFS National Recreation Areas) you may not use the online application. [Find out more >>](#)



## Training and Resources



## Save the Date - 2024 National Outdoor Recreation Conference

The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals is excited to announce the dates for the 2024 National Outdoor Recreation Conference in South Lake Tahoe on May 6-9. [Find out more >>](#)



## Save the Date - Visitor Use Management Workshop

The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals is hosting a hybrid workshop to share local, state, and federal perspectives on visitor use management in Winter Harbor, Maine, August 15-17. Registration is now open. [Find out more >>](#)



## Greater & Greener 2024 Call for Speaker Presentations

City Parks Alliance has announced a Call for Speaker Proposals for Greater & Greener 2024. Presentation proposals must be submitted on or before June 26. [Find out more >>](#)



## Advancing Trails Webinar Series



American Trails brings agencies, trail builders, planners, architects, advocates, and volunteers the latest in state-of-the-art information on all aspects of trails and greenways.

All webinars are recorded and can be accessed for free via our [online store](#) at any time. Recordings of past webinars are also being added to our [YouTube channel](#) on a weekly basis.

## Free May Webinars

- May 11: [Building a Comprehensive Count Program in Your Park or on Your Trails](#)
- May 18: [Informing the Trail Experience: The Process of Signing a Trail](#)
- May 25: [Pack Goats: The Agile Trail Helpers](#)

## Free Future Webinars

- June 1: [Trail Skills Project: Connecting the Trails Community to Training, Expertise, and Professional Development](#)
- June 29: [Helping Wheelchair Hikers Find Hiking Trails](#)
- August 24: [Porous Flexible Pavement, Asphalt, or Porous Asphalt: Lessons Learned for Multi-Use Trails in the District of Columbia](#)
- September 21: [How Trails Support Healthy Aging for All](#)
- September 28: [Engaging, Enabling, and Motivating Families and Diverse Trail Users](#)

## Additional Free Learning Credit Opportunities



American Trails is partnering with the following organization(s) to offer [free learning credits](#) to attendees.

Send us an [email](#) if you wish to offer learning credits for FREE to your attendees for your conference, webinar, workshop, etc. (virtual or in-person).

## Successful U.S. Bicycle Route System Designation for State DOT Transportation Professionals – August 8, 2023 – Virtual

In partnership with Adventure Cycling Association

(Details coming soon)



## Enter the Trails Workforce Job Board



## Build Your Skills Training Calendar



## Trail Workers of America Group Join Here

